

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 SS-15 H-02 ACDA-07 AID-05 EUR-12

L-03 TRSE-00 IGA-02 MC-02 /066 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN/BZE;GAGOWEN:RP

APPROVED BY ARA/CEN:MWEISSMAN (DRAFT)

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R 022100Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL BELIZE

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 190873

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, MASS, BH

SUBJECT: WARREN K. BASS

REF: BELIZE 676

1. BASS APPEARS TO HAVE MISREPRESENTED HIS RELATIONSHIP TO CONGRESSMAN MILLS AND ALSO HIS CONTACT WITH WASHINGTON AGENCIES. MILLS' OFFICE INFORMED DEPARTMENT AUGUST 2 THAT BASS IS CONSTITUENT FROM MILLS' DISTRICT AND HAS HAD ACQUAINTANCE WITH MILLS FOR MANY YEARS. HOWEVER, THEY ADVISE THAT MILLS HAS NO REPEAT NO INVOLVEMENT OR INTEREST IN BASS' PRESENT ACTIVITIES IN BELIZE. MILLS PLANS NO REPEAT NO TRIP TO BELIZE IN AUGUST OR LATER.

2. BASS' ONLY KNOWN CONTACT WITH USG IS LETTER DATED JULY 19, ADDRESSED TO "W.D. ROBINSON, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE" (SIC). LETTER PASSED TO ARA/CEN BY STAFF OF DEPUTY SECRETARY, CHARLES ROBINSON. LETTER REQUESTED QUANTITY OF RIOT CONTROL WEAPONS, INCLUDING FIREARMS, AND SEVERAL PATROL BOATS FOR THE MINISTRY OF WORKS. ATTACHED WAS PHOTOCOPY OF HANDWRITTEN NOTE, PURPORTEDLY FROM MINIS-
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TER OF WORKS FRED HUNTER, INDICATING BASS REPRESENTS

HUNTER "IN SEEKING FUNDING FOR VARIOUS PROJECTS UNDER (THE MINISTRY OF WORKS) RESPONSIBILITY." DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE, DATED JULY 30 AND SIGNED BY DESK OFFICER FOR BELIZE, INFORMED BASS HIS REQUEST IN CONFLICT WITH SECTION 660 OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT, WHICH PROHIBITS PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE TO FOREIGN POLICE. LETTER ALSO INDICATED ANY SUCH REQUESTS SHOULD BE CHanneLED THROUGH BRITISH GOVERNMENT, ESPECIALLY WHEN DEFENSE ITEMS INVOLVED. THIS IS ONLY RESPONSE FROM USG TO BASS THUS FAR.

3. IN VIEW OF POTENTIAL FOR EMBARASSMENT FROM BASS' STATEMENTS IN BELIZE, CONGEN AUTHORIZED TO INFORM GOB THAT, IN-SO FAR AS WE CAN DETERMINE, BASS IS ACTING ENTIRELY ON HIS OWN ACCOUNT AND THAT NEITHER CONGRESSMAN MILLS NOR THE USG IS SUPPORTING HIS ACTIVITIES. HABIB

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE190873
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760297-1289
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760895/aaaadftr.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BELIZE 676
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2004 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <25 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WARREN K. BASS
TAGS: EAID, MASS, BH, US, (BASS, WARREN K)
To: BELIZE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006